INFORMATION REPORT CD NO. Approved For Release 1999/09/09 QQ457R006000070003-9 COUNTRY Cuatemala/Czechoslovakia DATE DISTR. 11 Oct 50 Purchase of Czechoslovakian Arms by SUBJECT NO. OF PAGES 1 RETURN TO GIA Guatemalan Government 25X1A PLACE ... MBBYBA NO. OF ENCLS. ACQUIRED 25X1A DATE OF SUPPLEMENT 25X1X INFO. REPORT NO. The proposed murchase of Cmechoslovakian arms by the Guatemalan Army has had to be postponed owing to lack of funds to finance the transaction. Through his connections in the Cuatemalan Army, source learned that Frank Polasek, Guatemalan representative of arms manufacturers in Czechoslovakia, and on very good terms with the present regime in that country, had been approached originally in regard to the arms purchase. However, Polasek reportedly made the mistake of attempting to bribe some of the junior officers working for the General Staff in order to make sure of securing the contract for himself. Upon being informed of the attempted bribery, the General Staff stopped all negotiations with Polasek, and started negotiating with another representative for Czechoslovakian firms, in Guatemala. The Guardia Civil, according to source, was also interested in securing Czechoslovakian arms and ampunition for that organization. However, source learned that the Guardia had managed to arrange for the purchase of five hundred revolvers from the United States and that the proposed purchase of arms from Czecnoslovakin had been abandoned. AMERICA C This document is hereby regraded to Document No. CONFIDENTIAL in accordance with the No Change In ala letter of 16 October 1978 from the |Declassified Director of Central Intelligence to the Archivist of the United States.

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